

HOUSE BILL 2781

By Tindell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 54
and Title 55, relative to highways, roads and
bridges.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 54-5-1101, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

Section 54-5-1101.

(a) There is authorized to be established a system of specific service signs within the rights-of-way of highways on the interstate system and on adjoining public roads in the vicinity of such highways for the purpose of advising the traveling public of specific business establishments within certain eligible categories. Multi-lane, fully controlled-access roads are permitted to participate in the specific service sign system in accordance with the guidelines established for the program, and the commissioner of transportation is directed to add such roads to the system. If space is available, a specific business establishment shall not be excluded from participating in the specific service sign program because such establishment does not serve breakfast. Such establishment may occupy any available space on a specific service sign if doing so would not exclude a business establishment that does serve breakfast.

(b) Such specific service signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

(c) As portions of I-840 are opened, these portions shall be included in the specific service sign program provided for in this part; provided, that eligibility of interchanges and businesses for participation in this program shall be determined in

accordance with regulations which the commissioner has promulgated pursuant to this part.

(d) Notwithstanding any provision of this part to the contrary, the commissioner of transportation is authorized, subject to the approval of the federal highway administration, to erect specific service signs at Exit 1 (U.S. Highway 41) on Interstate Highway 75 in Hamilton County; provided, however, that, due to safety considerations, no more than one (1) sign panel may be erected on either approach to the exit and the categories of specific service signs available shall be limited to food and lodging.

(e) Notwithstanding any provision of this part to the contrary, the commissioner of transportation is authorized to erect specific service signs at Exit 1 (U.S. Highway 41) on Interstate 24 and 75 in Hamilton County to provide one (1) sign panel for the categories of gas and camping.

(f) As used in this section, "breakfast" means the first meal of the day commonly taken in the ante meridiem.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008, the public welfare requiring it.